

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this preliminary amendment, Applicant adds claims 19 – 24. Support for these claims is found in various portions of the specification, including paragraphs 81 and 88.

For example, paragraph 81 recites, "Regarding the validation symbol of pattern 510, it is scanned by radiation from one of the light source assemblies 48, 50 of FIG. 2 and compared with a known corresponding pattern. If a match is found, the label dispensing action is enabled; but in the absence of a match the label sheet is merely dispensed upward in its entirety without separation of the labels from the sheet."

Similarly, paragraph 88 recites, "Regarding the validation symbol or pattern 510 or 510'; it is scanned as the label sheet is initially advanced past the sensors 48 or 50, and the symbol or pattern is compared with matching information stored in the memory associated with microprocessor 202 or FIG. 11 of the drawings. If a match is found, the label dispensing action goes forward. However, if no match is found, the sweep bar is not actuated, and the label sheet assembly is dispensed upward from the label sheet dispenser."

It is noted that new claim 19 is an apparatus claim and that new claim 22 is a method claim. Claim 22 incorporates the limitations of the claim 19 in the preamble, plus additional limitations in the recited steps. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that no restriction requirement is appropriate with respect to claims 19 and 22.

A check for \$336 is enclosed to cover the cost of four claims above and beyond twenty (\$72), and for three additional independent claims beyond three (\$264).

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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